

CARL J. KUNAS
CHAIRMAN
JIM IRVIN
COMMISSIONER

WILLIAM A. MUNDELL
COMMISSIONER



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ORIGINAL
BRIAN C. McNEIL
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

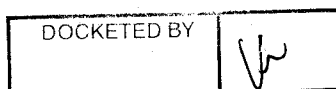
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October 19, 2000

AZ CORP COMMISSION
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Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

OCT 19 2000

Commissioner Jim Irvin
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007



Re: Qwest Rate Case Docket # T 01051B-99-0105
Issues raised by your letter of October 18, 2000 to Mr. McNeil and Ms. Scott

Dear Commissioner Irvin:

I filed a statement in the docket for this case on October 16, 2000 which expressed my intent to have the Qwest rate case thoroughly scrutinized before I would even consider approval of a settlement proposed by any party to this important matter. A copy of that statement is attached to this letter. The content is self-explanatory.

I have never considered any proposed settlement in any matter I've voted upon to be a done deal. On the contrary, I have consistently supported a thorough review of all relevant issues in cases presented to us for consideration. You may recall my efforts to "slow the train down" when the Pima Utilities "settlement" was, over my objection, set for an open meeting on 12-22-99. I also attempted to grant the telephone retirees and the US West employees additional time to consider changes sought by US West/Qwest to the merger approval order. Documentation of those efforts are also attached. Your cooperation in supporting such requests for additional consideration time was notably not forthcoming.

I resent the implication that I am a party to or supporter of any fast track consideration of the Qwest rate case and that the public comment sessions held to date did not provide us with meaningful public input on issues that were on the table at the time they were held. I am certainly willing to schedule public comment sessions to air any issues related to the Qwest rate case which arise from consideration of the proposed settlement which I understand will first be available to us for review on October 20, 2000.

I have no difficulty in recommending that Mr. Rudibaugh consider setting the evidentiary hearing for the rate case to a later date if parties to the process feel that there is inadequate time to prepare for it. I'm certain he would be sensitive to any such concerns.

October 19, 2000

Page 2

Staff was not given any instructions by me to settle this matter. Had you attended the noticed staff meeting on October 4, 2000, you would have heard the Utilities Division report that Staff was in settlement discussions with Qwest and that an agreement in principle seemed likely.

Let's quit the posturing and work towards cooperating on a schedule that all affected parties feel provides sufficient time for thorough consideration of the rate case.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William A. Mundell".

William A. Mundell
Commissioner

Attachments:

cc: Chairman Kunasek
Brian McNeil
Deborah Scott
Jerry Rudibaugh
Docket Control



ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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MEMORANDUM

COPY

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DEC 21 1999

A.C.C. - DOCKET CONTROL

TO: Chairman Kunasek
Commissioner Irvin
Brian McNeil

FROM: Commissioner Mundell *WAM*

RE: Request for Open Meeting on 12-22-99
Pima Utilities SW-02199A-98-0578

DATE: December 20, 1999

I want to express my position on the request for a meeting on 12-22-99 at 2pm, which will be disclosed at the start of such a meeting if it is scheduled over my objection.

1. I will have no objection if the purpose of the meeting is to formally approve a settlement reached by all of the parties including intervenors and homeowners' official and unofficial representatives.
2. I vigorously oppose the scheduling of an open meeting this week if the purpose is to have a contested proceeding regarding the latest applicant's position on the rate increase.
3. Any proposed settlement that has been approved by all parties should be distributed and circulated in advance no later than Tuesday morning.
4. If an open meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, over my objection, I insist that phone calls be made today to all affected representatives advising them of the setting of the open meeting based on two commissioners' request and that their presence is welcome and encouraged despite the short notice.

IL J. KUNASEK
CHAIRMAN
JIM IRVIN
COMMISSIONER

LIAM A. MUNDELL
COMMISSIONER

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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

July 28, 2000

Chairman Carl Kunasek
Commissioner Jim Irvin
1200 West Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Merger of Qwest and US West; Docket # T-01051B-99-0497
Telephone Retirees Association of Arizona's Application for Rehearing

Dear Commissioners:

I urge both of you to join me in supporting the Telephone Retirees Association-Arizona's request for a rehearing. I believe that in the interest of fairness we should provide them the opportunity to address the issues outlined in the application for rehearing. When U S West and Qwest made their motion for clarification it was granted and their proposed amendment was adopted within a matter of days. I clearly remember TRAA's objection voiced by their representative Mr. Heyman at the "clarification" proceeding that they did not have sufficient time to analyze the amendment proposed by U S West/Qwest prior to its submission to this Commission for approval. The retirees were informed at the special Open Meeting on June 28th by this Commission that the vote on the amendment would not be delayed to allow them time to evaluate U S West's proposed language. They were advised to file a motion for rehearing/clarification just as U S West had done. Now that the Telephone Retirees Association-Arizona has applied for such an opportunity, I would welcome your cooperation in granting their request and affording the retirees an opportunity to be heard.

Sincerely,



William A. Mundell
Commissioner

Cc: Brian McNeil
Deb Scott
Lyn Farmer